

Studies in the Book of Proverbs by [John T Polk II](#)
For [The Fellowship Room](#)

(#210) The Proverbs of Solomon 31:8-9- Listen to Your Mama About Words

Since God Created humans, only God can provide specific understanding of human behavior. God gave Solomon Divine Wisdom ([1 Kings Chapters 3 and 10](#)) to explain what and why behavior is as it is, and [Proverbs 30-31](#) were added and preserved by the Holy Spirit. New Testament passages may help see the continuation of Wisdom offered through Jesus Christ.

Proverbs 31:8-9:

Open your mouth for the speechless, in the cause of all who are appointed to die. 9 Open your mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.

Step up and speak up for those who are less fortunate, specifically those who have: no voice, no parent, no justice, or no necessities of life. It is emphatic and an action of mercy to help the helpless. All leaders of government should admit that:

Mercy and truth preserve the king, and by lovingkindness he upholds his throne. ([Proverbs 20:28](#))

God has always required this of His people:

You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. In righteousness you shall judge your neighbor. ([Leviticus 19:15](#))

Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow. ([Isaiah 1:16-17](#))

Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world. ([James 1:27](#))

The "speechless" are those who have no voice or ability to defend themselves. All who would misrepresent their case easily victimizes them. Those "appointed to die" are people without possessions or permanence. According to the Hebrew expression, these may be strangers just passing through or orphans who cannot



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support themselves. God is mindful of such and required this of Israelites ([Deuteronomy 10:17-19](#)). Solomon wisely ruled:

Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor will also cry himself and not be heard. ([Proverbs 21:13](#))

Never was this clearer than when Israelites were taken from their Promised Land because:

The people of the land have used oppressions, committed robbery, and mistreated the poor and needy; and they wrongfully oppress the stranger. ([Ezekiel 22:29](#))

“Judge righteously” should be the outcry of all of God’s people. All judges and legal personnel should hear this command. Jesus has said:

“Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.” ([John 7:24](#))

“In accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God.” ([Romans 2:5](#))

“Plead the cause of the poor and needy,” for they cannot afford their own defense. The “poor and needy” are NOT those who demand their “right” to have the same possessions as those who have worked for what they have! The essentials of food and clothing are NOT in the same category as video games, big screen TV’s, cable, Internet, cars, or brand-name clothes!

No nation or people will stand when citizens have little or no recourse for their grievances!

